Hearings given in cases of liabilties against drug companies

3600. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have given hearing in certain cases of liabilties without finally settling the amounts;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and drugs/formulations involved in each case;

(c) when was the first hearing given in each case and the number of hearings given in each case upto 30th November, 1992 and what is the outcome of each hearing;

(d) whether it is a fact that the hearings have been given in other cases against the directions of courts;

(c) when the direction was given in each case and the number of hearings have been given uptil today in each case; and

(f) what is the present position of each case and the number of cases in which the liability has been finally assessed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (f) Hearings are being given on the directions of the Court in the cases of M/s. Hoechst, M/s. Pharmed, M/s. Burroughs Welcome and M/s. Nicolas Labs. In other cases hearings are given to the companies on their request for determining the recoverable amount as part of normal procedure and as a requirement of natural justice. In cases relating to M/s Merind, M/s Pfizer (Oxytetracycline) M/s Sandoz, M/Pfizer (Multivitamin), M/ Abbott, M/s Burroughs 'welcome', M/s Lupin, M/s Biochem / and M/s Nicholas, hearings have been given. In cases relating to M/s Anil Starch, M/s John Wyeth, Franco India, M/s Cyanamid and M/s SG. Pharmaceuticals, dates for hearings have been fixed. In the other cases hearings would be given at the earliest. Details of tentative liabilities assessed have already been given in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Questions No. 515 dated 26.11.1992.

Licence for small sector Drug units

3601. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even small scale sector units are required to have industrial licence before introducing new drug formulations;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of small scale units have not taken any industrial licence before introducing new products or effecting substantial expansion;

(c) if so, the names of those companies;

(d) what action has been taken against these companies for contravention of the provisions of I (D&R) Act, 1951; and

(c) by when all units would be given industrial licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (e) To the extent possible details will be collected and placed on the Table of the House.

Policy on Loan Licence Drug Units

3602. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of loan licence units presently in operation in drug sector alongwith the total value of production, capital investment and employment in such units;

(b) whether any policy changes are proposed in the new Drug Policy; and

(c) if not, what is Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (c) This information is being collected from the Ministry of Health and F.W. and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(b) This matter is not being considered separately in the review of the Drug Policy.

Inclusion of Ceftazidine bulk drug under price control

3603. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1949 given in Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1992 and state:

(a) what is the import of drug in terms of quantity and value during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) when in 1990-91 itself the turn-over of the drug is more than Rs. 7 crores, what are the reasons for bringing the same under price control; and

(c) when the decision taken for continuation of this product out of price control till policy is reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The total quantity of Ceftazidine bulk drug imported during 1991-92 and 1992-93 (so far) is 53.9 kgs and 940.89 kgs respectively. The c.i.f. value for the two years is Rs. 25.47 lacs and 756.8 lacs.

(b) and (c) The drug is outside price control since the inception of DPCO, 1987.

Non-implementation of provisions of Drug Policy, 1986

3604. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of provisions of Drug Policy, 1978 and 1986 and DPCO 1979 and 1987 which have not been implemented by his Ministry;

(b) what were the objectives under which each of these provisions were created and what are the reasons for non-implementation of these provisions;

(c) whether his Ministry have made any study about the effect on prices of medicines, indigenous production and imports of drugs;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that the need of sudden changes of Drug policies are arising on account of non-implementations of these provisions; and

(f) whether Government have taken note of this aspect while drafting the Background Note of proposed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (f) Experience gained in implementing the provisions of Drug Policy 1978 and 1986 and DPCO 1979 and 1987, especially in relation to their practicability in certain given situations as arising from time to time, has been debated and analysed exhaustively at various levels in the Government as well as in discussions held with Industry Associations and various interest groups and it is on this basis that the Background Note on the Review of Drug Policy' 86 has been prepared and placed on the Table of the Houses on 12-8-1992 for obtaining the views of Members of Parliament.